

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 221

By Moody

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q of Mason on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary businesses that, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such remarkable establishment is Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q in Mason, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, founded in January 1923 by Thomas Jefferson "Bozo" Williams, Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q has served countless satisfied customers from across the nation with quality hot pit barbeque for ten decades; and

WHEREAS, in 1925, Bozo's moved into a small building on the land that the current restaurant now occupies and was operated as a combination restaurant and Shell gasoline station, with food served from just a counter; a side room with tables was later added before Mr. Williams relocated the restaurant to a small white building across the street; and

WHEREAS, Bozo Williams operated the restaurant until his death in 1935, when four of his eleven children, known fondly as Miss Iris, Miss Rubye, Miss Helen, and Mr. Allen Williams, inherited the family business; and

WHEREAS, the current building that houses Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q was opened for business on April 5, 1950, and was air conditioned in 1952; the family closed the restaurant every Sunday from 1960 until 1994, when they began closing on Sunday and Monday to spend more time with their families; and

WHEREAS, upholding their wonderful family legacy, numerous members of the Williams family have worked at the restaurant over the years, including former owner Jeff Thompson, who owned Bozo's from 1988 until he sold the business in 1999 to Hayne Ozier, who sold it to the current owners in 2008; and

WHEREAS, today, Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q is operated by John and Cindy Papageorgeon, who continue to serve the same top-quality barbeque as the Williams family first sold to their customers in 1923; and

WHEREAS, for a century, the patrons of Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q have frequented this dining establishment for its tremendous food and friendly atmosphere, making it an icon of the Mason community both today and for many years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the owners and staff, both past and present, of Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.